

ENERGY NEWS AND NOTES

Getting To The Source Of Power Costs

(NAPSA)—Shopping for electricity is a new concept for Texans, and the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) is providing electric customers with the information necessary to make an “apples to apples” comparison of offers from competitive Retail Electric Providers (REP).

The Electricity Facts Label is a product of a 1999 Texas law that restructures the electric industry and allows customers to choose a REP—the company that provides electricity to homes and businesses.

Each REP offering service will supply a customer with its Electricity Facts Label upon request. The Electricity Facts Label, similar to a nutrition label found on many food products, allows a customer to compare information, in a standardized format, making it easier for customers to select a REP based on what matters most to them.

The Electricity Facts Label provides information on electric prices, contract terms, sources of generation and emissions levels. These “ingredients” will help customers make an informed decision about their electric service.

• **Electricity Price**—This includes the average cost of electricity in cents per kilowatt-hour at various usage levels. The price includes all charges for generation (including fuel), delivery, and customer service. Any incentives or promotional offers from the REP are also included in this price.

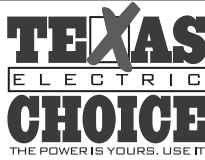
• **Contract Terms**—Specifically informs customers about the duration of a contract and cancellation fees (if any).

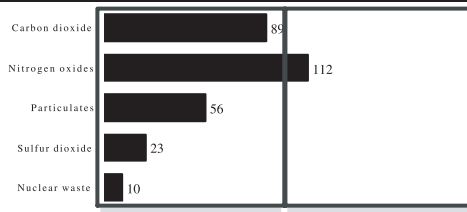

• **Sources of Power Generation**—A percentage based list of the fuel used to generate electricity. REPs may purchase power from different generation plants that use various fuels such as coal, natural gas, nuclear energy or renewable sources like wind.

• **Emissions**—The amount of air emissions attributed to the sources of generation used to produce power. Use the bar chart at the bottom to see how REP emissions compare to the Texas average.

Customers of Texas’ investor-owned utilities may begin choosing a new REP through a Pilot Program that began this summer.

The Texas utility market opens for full competition in January 2002. For more information on Electric



Electricity Facts			
[Name of REP], [Name of Product] [Service area (if applicable)] [Date]			
Electricity price	Average monthly use:	500kWh	1,000kWh
	Average price per kilowatt - hour:	[x.x]¢	[x.x]¢
This price disclosure is an example based on [criteria used to construct the example] n your average price for electric service will vary according to [relevant variation]. See the Terms of Service document for actual prices. [If applicable] Price fixed for [xx] months. [If applicable] On-peak [season or time]:[xxx] [If applicable] Average on-peak price per kilowatt-hour: [x.x]¢ [If applicable] Average off-peak price per kilowatt-hour: [x.x]¢			
Contract		Minimum term: [xx] months. Penalty for early cancellation: \$[xx] See Terms of Service statement for a full listing of fees, deposit policy, and other terms.	
Sources of power generation	Coal and lignite	This product [xx]%	Texas (for comparison) [xx]%
	Natural gas	[xx]%	[xx]%
	Nuclear	[xx]%	[xx]%
	Renewable energy	[xx]%	[xx]%
	Other	[xx]%	[xx]%
	Total	100%	100%
Emissions and waste per kWh generated	Carbon dioxide		
	Nitrogen oxides		
	Particulates		
	Sulfur dioxide		
	Nuclear waste		
(Indexed values; 100=Texas average) 			

New law helps customers make informed decisions when shopping for electricity.

Choice in Texas, visit www.power-tochoose.org or call toll-free 1-866-PWR-4-TEX.

Note to Editors: Although utility deregulation is being tested throughout the country, Texas Electric Choice is available only within the state of Texas.